

FISCAL NOTE

HB 3913

March 31, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the *Truth in Campaigning Act*, which:

- Makes any person, corporation, organization, entity, or committee that publishes, broadcasts, or distributes any false and defamatory campaign literature or political advertisement relating to the conduct, fitness, or record of any candidate for public office liable upon proof by clear and convincing evidence for damages in a defamation action brought by such candidate.
- Requires the Secretary of State to print and distribute the code of fair campaign practices and requires the election coordinator or county registrar-at-large to give individuals filing a nominating petition a copy of such code.
- Makes signing the code and adhering to its guidelines voluntary.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

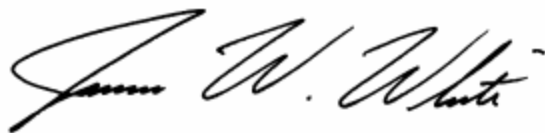
Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant

Assumption:

- Increase in state expenditures to the Secretary of State's Office to print and distribute the *code of fair campaign practices* to candidates for public office. Such increase is estimated to be not significant and can be handled within the existing budget.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director